

What is claimed is:

1. A data management method comprising the steps of:

adding particular identifying data to each information unit in various kinds of information;

5 storing and managing, by an information management apparatus or other external device, said various kinds of information or information related thereto associated with said identifying data;

transmitting, when an information recipient selects information from among said various kinds of information, identifying data particular to that information to said information management apparatus by
10 communications means;

registering and storing, by said information management apparatus or said external device when said information management apparatus receives said data, said identifying data in association with said
15 information recipient; and

accessing and calling, by said information recipient, management information in said information management apparatus from a communications terminal,

whereby various kinds of information or information related thereto
20 specified by said identifying data registered and stored in association with said information recipient are transmitted from said information management apparatus or said external device to said communications terminal.

25 2. A data management method comprising the steps of:

adding particular identifying data to each information unit in various kinds of information;

storing and managing, by an information management apparatus or other external device, said various kinds of information or information related thereto and associated with said identifying data;

transmitting, when an information recipient selects information from
5 among said various kinds of information, identifying data particular to that information to said information management apparatus by communications means;

registering and storing, by said information management apparatus or said external device when said information management apparatus
10 receives said data, various kinds of information or information related thereto specified by said identifying data, in association with said information recipient; and

accessing and calling, by said information recipient, management information in said information management apparatus from a
15 communications terminal,

whereby various kinds of information or information related thereto registered and stored in association with said information recipient are transmitted from said information management apparatus to said communications terminal.

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a 3. The data management method according to ~~either claim 1 or claim 2~~, wherein said various kinds of information are information that at least has video information, or audio information, or video information and audio information, or reference data for those kinds of information.

a 4. The data management method according to ~~either claim 1 or claim 2~~, wherein said various kinds of information are information printed in printed materials.

a 5 5. The data management method according to ~~either claim 1 or claim 2~~, wherein said various kinds of information are information aired, broadcast, or disclosed at an event convention hall.

6. A data management method comprising the steps of:

10 sending reference data added information comprising various kinds of information having at least video information, or audio information, or video information and audio information, to which reference data which constitute detailed information for said various kinds of information have been added, from an information providing apparatus to an information
15 receiving device by broadcast or other communications;

selecting by an information recipient, some information from said reference data added information sent to said information receiving device;

20 sending identifying data particular to said selected information to an information management apparatus, from said information receiving device, or from communications means that have received a signal from said information receiving device;

25 calling, by said information management apparatus, upon receiving said identifying data, reference data added information or reference data or related data related to reference data specified by said identifying data, from said information providing apparatus or from another external device;

registering and storing said data in association with said information recipient;

accessing and calling, by said information recipient, management information in said information management apparatus from a communications terminal,

whereby reference data added information or reference data or related data registered and stored in association with said information recipient are transmitted from said information management apparatus to said communications terminal.

7. A data management method comprising the steps of:

sending reference data added information comprising various kinds of information having at least video information, or audio information, or video information and audio information, to which reference data which constitutes detailed information for said various kinds of information have been added, from an information providing apparatus to an information receiving device by broadcast or other communications;

selecting by an information recipient, some information from said reference data added information sent to said information receiving device;

sending identifying data particular to said selected information to an information management apparatus, from said information receiving device, or from communications means that have received a signal from said information receiving device;

registering and storing, by said information management apparatus, upon receiving said identifying data, said identifying data in association with said information recipient;

accessing and calling, by said information recipient, management information in said information management apparatus from a communications terminal,

whereby identifying data particular to called information are transmitted from said information management apparatus to said information providing apparatus or other external device, reference data added information or reference data or reference data related to reference data specified by said identifying data are transmitted, either directly or via said information management apparatus, from said information providing apparatus or said external device, to said communications terminal.

8. A data management method comprising the steps of:

sending reference data added information comprising various kinds of information having at least video information, or audio information, or video information and audio information, to which reference data which constitutes detailed information for said various kinds of information have been added, from an information providing apparatus to an information receiving device by broadcast or other communications;

sending said reference data added information or reference data or related data related to reference data by broadcast or other communications or prescribed presentation means from said information providing apparatus or other external device to an information management apparatus;

storing and managing said reference data added information or reference data or related data sent to said information management apparatus by said information management apparatus,

selecting, by an information recipient, some information from said reference data added information sent to said information receiving device;

5 sending identifying data particular to said selected information to said information management apparatus, from said information receiving device or, alternatively, from communications means that have received a signal from said information receiving device;

10 registering and storing, by said information management apparatus, upon receiving said identifying data, reference data added information or reference data or related data specified by said identifying data in association with said information recipient;

accessing and calling, by said information recipient, management information in said information management apparatus from a communications terminal,

15 whereby reference data added information or reference data or related data registered and stored in association with said information recipient are transmitted from said information management apparatus to said communications terminal.

20 9. A data management method comprising the steps of:

sending reference data added information comprising various kinds of information having at least video information, or audio information, or video information and audio information, to which reference data which constitutes detailed information for said various kinds of information have
25 been added, from an information providing apparatus to an information receiving device by broadcast or other communications;

a 10. The data management method according to ^{claim 6} ~~any one of claims 6 to 9~~, wherein said identifying data contain at least (1) information indicating time selected by said information recipient, and (2) information indicating channel receiving information selected by said information recipient.

a 5 11. The data management method according to ^{claim 6} ~~any one of claims 6 to 9~~, wherein said identifying data are particular codes added to each piece of said reference data or to each piece of said related data, prior to sending of said reference data added information from said information providing
10 apparatus to said information receiving device.

a 12. The data management method according to ^{claim 6} ~~any one of claims 6 to 9~~, wherein said information management apparatus,

when registering and storing identifying data or reference data
15 added information or reference data or related data in association with said information recipient, also registers and stores either all or one or more types of information selected from among selected date indicating information, program indicating information, program genre indicating information, region indicating information, and sponsor indicating
20 information; and,

when said information recipient accesses management information in said information management apparatus from a communications terminal, and calls out information, either said selected date indicating information, program indicating information, program genre indicating
25 information, region indicating information, or sponsor indicating information is information-retrieved as a retrieval key.

13. The data management method according to claim 12, wherein, of retrieval keys consisting of two or more kinds of information out of said selected date indicating information, program indicating information, program genre indicating information, region indicating information, and sponsor indicating information, those are displayed on said communications terminal in order beginning with one selected with highest frequency in past.

14. The data management method according to claim 12 ~~or claim 13~~, wherein, of retrieval keys comprising at least one kind of information out of said selected date indicating information, program indicating information, program genre indicating information, region indicating information, and sponsor indicating information, key words belonging to some retrieval key(s) are displayed on said communications terminal in order beginning with one selected with highest frequency in past.

15. An information providing apparatus used in the data management method cited in ^{claim 6} ~~any one of claims 6 to 9~~, comprising at least information production means for producing various kinds of information having at least video information or audio information, or video information and audio information data editing means for adding reference data constituting detailed information for either some or all of said various kinds of information produced, and information transmission means for transmitting said various kinds of information to which said reference data have been added by broadcast or other communications.

16. The information providing apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising mark addition means for adding a mark to said reference data added information to indicate that reference data have been added to that information.

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17. The information providing apparatus according to claim 15 ~~or claim 16~~, further comprising information sending means for associating said identifying data with said reference data added information or said reference data or said related data and sending same to said information management apparatus by broadcast or other communications.

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18. An information providing apparatus comprising:

information production means for producing various kinds of information having at least video information, or audio information, or
15 video information and audio information;

data editing means for adding reference data constituting detailed information for either some or all of said various kinds of information produced to produce reference data added information;

information transmission means for adding particular identifying
20 data to said reference data added information and transmitting same to an information receiving device by broadcast or other communications; and

information sending means for associating said identifying data with said reference data added information or said reference data or related
25 data related with said reference data and sending same to an information management apparatus by broadcast or other communications.

19. An information providing apparatus comprising:

information production means for producing various kinds of information having at least video information, or audio information, or video information and audio information;

5 data editing means for adding reference data constituting detailed information for either some or all of said various kinds of information produced to produce reference data added information;

identifying data addition means for adding particular identifying data to said reference data added information; and

10 information transmission means for transmitting said reference data added information by broadcast or other communications.

20. An information receiving device used in the data management method cited in ^{claim 6} ~~any one of claims 6 to 9~~, comprising:

15 information reception means for receiving reference data added information transmitted from said information providing apparatus;

display means for displaying received information;

20 designation signal reception means for receiving signals for designating information in cases where said information recipient has selected and designated some information from among said reference data added information; and

25 data sending means for sending identifying data particular to information selected and designated by said information recipient to said information management apparatus, either directly or through communications means.

information and displays information so received, for selecting and designating certain information among said reference data added information, in response to control inputs of an information recipient, characterized in that, when an operation is performed on said remote controller for selecting and designating information, identifying data particular to said designated information are sent to an information management apparatus, either directly or via communications means.

24. The remote controller according to claim 23, characterized in that said remote controller is a communication terminal having a designating signal sending function, and when a designating signal is sent to said information receiving device in response to control inputs from an information recipient, said identifying data are received from said information receiving device, and those identifying data are transmitted to said information management apparatus.

25. The remote controller according to claim 23, characterized in that said remote controller is a communication terminal having a designating signal sending function, also having time information and information on channel currently being received, and identifying data specified by said time information and channel information are transmitted to said information management apparatus in response to control inputs of an information recipient.

26. The remote controller according to ^{claim 23} ~~any one of claims 23 to 25~~, characterized in that

said remote controller has a plurality of information designating buttons for separate individuals;

when any one of said plurality of information designating buttons is manipulated, said remote controller sends a signal for selecting and designating information to an information receiving device; and

said information receiving device transmits identifying data particular to said designated information to an information management apparatus, either directly or via communications means, associated with individual associated with said information designating button.

27. An information management apparatus used in the data management method cited in ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~, comprising:

read-out means for reading out information stored in memory means provided externally or internally;

identifying data reception means for receiving identifying data particular to information selected and designated by said information recipient;

data management means for registering and managing said identifying data or reference data added information or reference data or related data in association with said information recipient;

retrieval means for retrieving said identifying data or reference data added information or reference data or related data registered and managed in association with said information recipient and called out by said information recipient accessing and calling from a communication terminal; and

data sending means for sending said identifying data or reference data added information or reference data or related data that have been retrieved by said retrieval means and read out by said read-out means.

- 5 28. An information management apparatus for managing reference data comprising detailed information for various kinds of information having at least video information, or audio information, or video information and audio information, or reference data added information resulting from adding reference data to said various kinds of information, or related data
10 related to reference data, comprising:

read-out means for reading out information stored in memory means provided externally or internally;

- identifying data reception means for receiving identifying data particular to information selected from among said various kinds of
15 information, and designated, by an information recipient;

data management means for associating said identifying data or reference data added information or reference data or related data with said information recipient and registering and managing same;

- retrieval means for retrieving said identifying data or reference data
20 added information or reference data or related data registered and managed in association with said information recipient and called out by said information recipient accessing and calling from a communication terminal; and

- data sending means for sending said identifying data or reference
25 data added information or reference data or related data that have been retrieved by said retrieval means and read out by said read-out means.

a 29. A communications terminal used in the data management method cited in ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~, comprising:

a control input unit for an information recipient to make control inputs with;

5 a transmitter for accessing said information management apparatus, based on control inputs from said control input unit, and transmitting signals for calling out registered information;

a receiver for receiving signals and data transmitted from said information management apparatus; and

10 a display unit for displaying received data.

30. The communications terminal according to claim 29, that is a communications terminal for accessing said information management apparatus wherein information indicating region is also registered and
15 stored, in cases where identifying data or reference data added information or reference data or related data are associated with an information recipient and registered and stored by said information management apparatus, wherein said communications terminal is also a navigation terminal or PHS, said region indicating information is
20 compared with current position information resident in said navigation terminal or PHS, and, when both sets of information match or are close, said reference data added information or reference data or related data are displayed on said navigation terminal or PHS.

a 31. A data management system that is a data management system used in the data management method cited in ~~any one of claims 6 to 9~~, comprising:

an information providing apparatus,
an information receiving device, and
an information management apparatus:

said information providing apparatus comprising:

5 information production means for producing various kinds of
information having at least video information, or audio information, or
video information and audio information;

data editing means for adding reference data constituting
detailed information for part or all of various kinds of information
10 produced; and

information transmission means for transmitting said various
kinds of information to which said reference data have been added, by
broadcast or other communications;

said information receiving device comprising:

15 information reception means for receiving reference data
added information transmitted from said information providing apparatus;

display means for displaying received information;

designating signal reception means for receiving signals for
designating information when said information recipient has selected and
20 designated certain information from among said reference data added
information; and

data sending means for sending identifying data particular to
information selected and designated by said information recipient to said
information management apparatus, either directly or via communications
25 means; and

said information management apparatus comprising:

read-out means for reading out information stored in memory means provided externally or internally;

identifying data reception means for receiving identifying data particular to information selected and designated by said information

5 recipient;

data management means for registering and managing said identifying data or reference data added information or reference data or related data in association with said information recipient;

10 retrieval means for retrieving said identifying data or reference data added information or reference data or related data registered and managed in association with said information recipient and called out by said information recipient accessing and calling out from a communication terminal; and

15 data sending means for sending said identifying data or reference data added information or reference data or related data that have been retrieved by said retrieval means and read out by said read-out means.

32. An information management system comprising:

20 an information providing apparatus for transmitting various kinds of information having at least either video information or audio information;
an information receiving device for receiving said various kinds of information;

25 registration designation means for designating registration of some or all of said various kinds of information received by said information receiving device, provided either integrally with or separately from said information receiving device;

registered information transmission means for transmitting
information designated for registration by said registration designation
means; and

an information management apparatus for receiving information
5 transmitted by said registered information transmission means, storing
and managing that information after associating same with code particular
to said information receiving device, with code particular to said
registered information transmission means, or with code particular to a
person making registration designation, and transmitting said stored and
10 managed information, in whole or in part, to a communications terminal,
by calling out information from said communications terminal, on basis of
said particular code or code related to that code.

33. An information management system comprising:

15 an information providing apparatus for transmitting various kinds of
information having at least either video information or audio information;
an information receiving device for receiving said various kinds of
information;

20 registration designation means for designating registration of some
or all of said various kinds of information received by said information
receiving device, provided either integrally with or separately from said
information receiving device;

registered information transmission means for transmitting
identifying data particular to information designated for registration by
25 said registration designation means; and

an information management apparatus for receiving identifying data
transmitted by said registered information transmission means, storing

and managing those identifying data after associating them with code particular to said information receiving device, with code particular to said registered information transmission means, or with code particular to a person making registration designation, and transmitting information in
5 said stored and managed information that corresponds with said identifying data, to a communications terminal, by calling out information from said communications terminal, on basis of said particular code or code related to that code and said identifying data.

10 34. An information management system comprising:

an information providing apparatus for transmitting various kinds of information having at least either video information or audio information;

an information receiving device for receiving said various kinds of information;

15 registration designation means for designating registration of some or all of said various kinds of information received by said information receiving device, provided either integrally with or separately from said information receiving device;

20 registered information transmission means for transmitting identifying data particular to information designated for registration by said registration designation means; and

an information management apparatus for receiving identifying data transmitted by said registered information transmission means, storing and managing information in said various kinds of information

25 corresponding to said identifying data, after associating same with code particular to said information receiving device, with code particular to said registered information transmission means, or with code particular to a

person making registration designation, and transmitting said stored and managed information, in whole or in part, to a communications terminal, by calling out information from said communications terminal, on basis of said particular code or code related to that code.

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35. An information management system comprising:

a broadcast transmitting apparatus for transmitting various kinds of information having at least either video information or audio information;

10 a television receiver or set top box for receiving said various kinds of information;

registration designation means, provided either integrally with or separate from said television receiver or set top box, for designating registration of some or all of said various kinds of information received by said television receiver or set top box;

15 registered information transmission means for transmitting information designated for registration by said registration designation means; and

an information management apparatus for receiving information transmitted by said registered information transmission means, storing
20 and managing that information after associating same with code particular to said television receiver or set top box, or with code particular to said registered information transmission means, or with code particular to a person making registration designation, and transmitting said stored and managed information, either in whole or in part, to said communications
25 terminal, by calling out information from said communications terminal on basis of said particular code or code related to that code.

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36. An information management system comprising:

a broadcast transmitting apparatus for transmitting various kinds of information having at least either video information or audio information;

5 a television receiver or set top box for receiving said various kinds of information;

registration designation means, provided either integrally with or separate from said television receiver or set top box, for designating registration of some or all of said various kinds of information received by said television receiver or set top box;

10 registered information transmission means for transmitting identifying data particular to information designated for registration by said registration designation means; and

an information management apparatus for receiving identifying data transmitted by said registered information transmission means, storing
15 and managing those identifying data after associating them with code particular to said television receiver or set top box, or with code particular to said registered information transmission means, or with code particular to a person making registration designation, and transmitting information in said stored and managed information that corresponds with said
20 identifying data to said communications terminal, by calling out information from said communications terminal on basis of said particular code or code related to that code and said identifying data.

37. An information management system comprising:

25 a broadcast transmitting apparatus for transmitting various kinds of information having at least either video information or audio information;

a television receiver or set top box for receiving said various kinds of information;

registration designation means, provided either integrally with or separate from said television receiver or set top box, for designating registration of some or all of said various kinds of information received by said television receiver or set top box;

registered information transmission means for transmitting identifying data particular to information designated for registration by said registration designation means; and

an information management apparatus for receiving identifying data transmitted by said registered information transmission means, storing and managing information in said various kinds of information that corresponds with those identifying data after associating said corresponding information with code particular to said television receiver or set top box, or with code particular to said registered information transmission means, or with code particular to a person making registration designation, and transmitting said stored and managed information, either in whole or in part, to said communications terminal, by calling out information from said communications terminal on basis of said particular code or code related to that code.

38. An information providing apparatus used in the information management system described in ~~any one of claims 32 to 34~~, comprising:

information production means for producing various kinds of information having at least either video information or audio information;

data editing means for adding reference data constituting detailed information for some or all of said various kinds of information produced; and

information transmission means for transmitting said various kinds of information to which said reference data were added, by broadcast or other communications.

39. A broadcast transmitting apparatus used in the information management system cited in ~~any one of claims 35 to 37~~, comprising:

information production means for producing various kinds of information having at least either video information or audio information;

data editing means for adding reference data constituting detailed information for some or all of said various kinds of information produced; and

information transmission means for transmitting said various kinds of information to which said reference data were added, by broadcast or other communications.

40. An information receiving device used in the information management system cited in ~~any one of claims 32 to 34~~, comprising:

information reception means for receiving various kinds of information transmitted from said information providing apparatus;

display means for displaying received information;

designation signal reception means for receiving signals for designating information out of said various kinds of information when selecting and designating certain information; and

data sending means for sending said selected and designated information to said information management apparatus, either directly or via communications means.

- a 5 41. A television receiver used in the information management system cited in ~~any one of claims 35 to 37~~, comprising:

information reception means for receiving various kinds of information transmitted from said broadcast transmitting apparatus;

display means for displaying received information;

- 10 designation signal reception means for receiving signals for designating information out of said various kinds of information when selecting and designating certain information; and

15 data sending means for sending said selected and designated information to said information management apparatus, either directly or via communications means.

- a 20 42. A set top box used in the information management system cited in ~~any one of claims 35 to 37~~, comprising:

information reception means for receiving various kinds of information transmitted from said broadcast transmitting apparatus;

designation signal reception means for receiving signals for designating information out of said various kinds of information when selecting and designating certain information; and

25 data sending means for sending said selected and designated information to said information management apparatus, either directly or via communications means.

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43. An information management apparatus used in the information management system cited in ~~any one of claims 32 to 37~~, comprising:

read-out means for reading out information stored in memory means provided externally or internally;

5 information reception means for receiving information selected and designated by said information recipient;

data management means for storing and managing said information after associating same with code particular to said information receiving device, or code particular to said registered information transmission means, or code particular to a person making registration designation;
10 and

data transmission means for transmitting said stored and managed information, in whole or in part, to a communications terminal by calling out information from said communications terminal on bases of said
15 particular code or code related to that code.

44. An information management system comprising:

an information providing apparatus for transmitting various kinds of information having at least either video information or audio information;

20 an information receiving device for receiving said various kinds of information;

registration designation means, provided either integrally with or separate from said information receiving device, for designating registration of some or all of said various kinds of information received by
25 said information receiving device;

registered information transmission means for transmitting
information designated for registration by said registration designation
means; and

an information management apparatus for receiving information
5 transmitted by said registered information transmission means, storing
and managing that information after associating same with code particular
to said information receiving device, or with code particular to said
registered information transmission means, or with code particular to a
10 person making registration designation, and transmitting said stored and
managed information, either in whole or in part, to communications
terminal of said person making registration designation, on basis of said
particular code or code related to that code, irrespective of whether or not
there is an information transmission request.

15 45. An information management system comprising:

an information providing apparatus for transmitting various kinds of
information having at least either video information or audio information;

an information receiving device for receiving said various kinds of
information;

20 registration designation means, provided either integrally with or
separate from said information receiving device, for designating
registration of some or all of said various kinds of information received by
said information receiving device;

registered information transmission means for transmitting
25 identifying data particular to information designated for registration by
said registration designation means; and

an information management apparatus for receiving identifying data transmitted by said registered information transmission means, storing and managing those identifying data after associating them with code particular to said information receiving device, or with code particular to
5 said registered information transmission means, or with code particular to a person making registration designation, and transmitting said stored and managed information, either in whole or in part, to communications terminal of said person making registration designation, on basis of said particular code or code related to that code, irrespective of whether or not
10 there is an information transmission request.

46. An information management system comprising:

an information providing apparatus for transmitting various kinds of information having at least either video information or audio information;

15 an information receiving device for receiving said various kinds of information;

registration designation means, provided either integrally with or separate from said information receiving device, for designating registration of some or all of said various kinds of information received by
20 said information receiving device;

registered information transmission means for transmitting identifying data particular to information designated for registration by said registration designation means; and

an information management apparatus for receiving identifying data
25 transmitted by said registered information transmission means, storing and managing information in said various kinds of information that corresponds with those identifying data, after associating that information

with code particular to said information receiving device, or with code particular to said registered information transmission means, or with code particular to a person making registration designation, and transmitting said stored and managed information, either in whole or in part, to
5 communications terminal of said person making registration designation, on basis of said particular code or code related to that code, irrespective of whether or not there is an information transmission request.

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